

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
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R 020853Z MAY 75
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3679
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 841

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR CH KN
SUBJECT: KIM IL SUNG VISIT TO PRC

1. DISCUSSIONS WITH DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES IN PEKING INDICATE WIDESPREAD AGREEMENT THAT KIM IL SUNG CAME TO PEKING WITH A REQUEST FOR CHINESE SUPPORT FOR SOME SORT OF STEPPED UP MILITARY PRESSURE AGAINST THE ROK, BUT THAT THE CHINESE REFUSED TO GO ALONG. HOWEVER, INDIAN EMBOFF HAS GIVEN US A REPORT OF UNCERTAIN RELIABILITY FROM THEIR MISSION IN PYONGYANG THAT NORTH KOREAN ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF O JIN YU VISITED PEKING IN FIRST WEEK OF MARCH TO DISCUSS MILITARY AFFAIRS AND MAKE INITIAL PREPARATIONS FOR KIM'S VISIT. A CHINESE MILITARY DELEGATION REPORTEDLY PAID A RETURN VISIT TO PYONGYANG ONLY TWO WEEKS BEFORE KIM LEFT FOR PEKING. ACCORDING TO THE INDIANS, THIRD COUNTRY DIPLOMATS IN NORTH KOREA CLAIM TO HAVE OBSERVED CONSIDERABLE MILITARY ACTIVITY ALONG THE SINO-KOREAN BORDER RECENTLY AND HAVE ALSO REPORTED THAT DPRK MILITARY FORCES WERE EXCUSED FROM SPRING PLANTING THIS YEAR IN ORDER TO DEVOTE THEIR TIME TO MILITARY PREPARATIONS. WE
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HAVE NO INFORMATION TO SUPPORT THESE INDIAN REPORTS,

AND THE INDIAN EMBASSY HERE APPEARS TO BE TREATING THEM WITH CONSIDERABLE RESERVE. INDIAN EMBOFF WHO PASSED THEM TO US CHARACTERIZED THEM AS "SOMEWHAT ALARMIST".

2. THE CONSENSUS HERE, HOWEVER, IS THAT THE CHINESE DID AGREE TO LEND THEIR SUPPORT TO WHAT APPEARS TO BE SHAPING US A MAJOR DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE BY PYONGYANG. PRC REFERENCE TO THE DPRK AS THE "SOLE GOVERNMENT" OF KOREA IS CONSIDERED HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT, AND THERE IS SOME SPECULATION THAT PYONGYANG MAY ATTEMPT TO ORCHESTRATE THE SOCIALIST STATES AND THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES LED BY ALGERIA TO PUSH FOR FURTHER PROGRESS IN THE UN. WITH THE CAMBODIAN AND VIETNAM ISSUES ESSENTIALLY REMOVED FROM THE UN AGENDA THIS YEAR, OBSERVERS IN PEKING FEEL THAT THE KOREAN QUESTION--INCLUDING THE UN COMMAND/US TROOPS ISSUE--AND POSSIBLY EVEN A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE DPRK AS THE SOLE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF KOREA MAY BECOME THE MAJOR ASIAN ISSUE AT THIS YEAR'S UNGA.

3. ALTHOUGH SOVIET DIPLOMATS HERE OBVIOUSLY DO NOT YET HAVE AUTHORIZATION TO CONFIRM A POSSIBLE VISIT TO MOSCOW AND EAST EUROPE BY KIM IL SUNG, THEY HAVE COME AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO DOING SO, STATING THAT THEY FEEL THERE IS "A GOOD POSSIBILITY". SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELOR DESCRIBED THE KOREANS AS SAYING DURING KIM'S VISIT HERE THAT HE "WOULD HAVE TO VISIT MOSCOW" FOLLOWING HIS TRIP TO THE PRC.
BUSH

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED CINCPAC.

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